

Addition/Correction

**Organic Azide Inhibitors of Cysteine Proteases**  
**[*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2006, 128, 12396–12397].**

Giang Thanh Le, Giovanni Abbenante, Praveen K. Madala, Huy N. Hoang, and David P. Fairlie

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**Organic Azide Inhibitors of Cysteine Proteases** [*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2006**, *128*, 12396–12397]. Giang Thanh Le, Giovanni Abbenante, Praveen K. Madala, Huy N. Hoang, and David P. Fairlie\*

We recently found that the azides reported in this Communication, especially those containing 2-naphthyl groups, are surprisingly sensitive to fluorescent laboratory light and undergo an unexpected photolytic decomposition in the solid state to give traces of monoacyl aminal and aldehyde decomposition products. This may have significant ramifications on the storage, chemical reactivity, and biological properties of azides, including the inhibitor potencies against cysteine proteases. Even under this mild form of exposure to light, the reaction occurs at a rate of ca. 1% per 24 h in the solid state; it is much faster in water–acetonitrile solutions (0.5% per hour) or when solids are exposed to sunlight (30%/h) but is undetectable in solid samples stored in the dark at room temperature for 20 days.

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